

Application No. 08/499,423

Please amend claim 71 as follows:

71. A tube according to claim 43 wherein the tube has a wall thickness less than about 0.25 mm.

[Please amend claim 72 as follows:]

72. A tube according to claim 43 wherein the circumference of the tube increases in response to the application of internal pressure up to a second circumference, thereafter the circumference remaining substantially unchanged with increasing internal pressure.

Please amend claim 79 as follows:

79. A tube according to claim 44 wherein the vascular graft has a wall thickness less than about 0.25 mm.

[Please amend claim 80 as follows:]

80. A tube according to claim 44 wherein the circumference of said vascular graft increases in response to the application of internal pressure up to a second circumference, thereafter the circumference remaining substantially unchanged with increasing internal pressure.

REMARKS

I. PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Claims 1-35 and 42-97 are pending in the application. Claims 27-31 are stated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2-23, 34, 35, 70-73, 78-81, 89 and 90 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as indefinite. Claims 1-5, 24-26, 32-35 and 86-91 are newly rejected under 35 USC 102.

Claims 2, 34, 70, 78, 89 and 90 are canceled herein. Claims 3, 5, 35, 71, 72, 79 and 80 are amended to correct dependency resulting from the cancellation of the claims from which they previously depended. Claim 6 is amended to revise language as a result of a prior amendment to claim 1. All of these amendments are a result of prior amendments to independent claims 1, 33 and 42 that lead to the outstanding 35 USC 112 rejection.

An RCE and the necessary petition for extension of time are submitted herewith in order to continue prosecution of the present application.